

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 76

By Pitts

A RESOLUTION to request the State Capitol Commission to initiate the creation of a monument to honor and commemorate veterans of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

WHEREAS, our nation was founded by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our freedom, and Tennessee is especially proud to be the home of so many honorable men and women who have steadfastly answered the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Tennesseans have continued the time-honored tradition of volunteerism through service in the armed forces, reaffirming this State's great tradition as the Volunteer State; and

WHEREAS, these courageous men and women have demonstrated heroic devotion and self-sacrifice as war disrupted the peace and prosperity of American life; these individuals entered the fray on our behalf and on behalf of democracy worldwide, boldly and without hesitation or complaint, to combat enemies who sought to do us harm; and

WHEREAS, throughout the years, these intrepid Tennesseans proudly serving in the United States Armed Forces have continued to inspire our confidence, loyalty, and support; and

WHEREAS, the preservation of peace and freedom for the United States of America and her allies throughout the world depends, as it has for more than two hundred years, on the selfless service, steadfastness, and sacrifice of the men and women of the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the veterans of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq have performed their worthy undertaking with the utmost skill, dedication, and patriotism and have served with

courage and valor; these veterans deserve recognition for their heroic efforts and contributions;
now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED
NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE
CONCURRING, that the State Capitol Commission is hereby requested to initiate the creation of
a monument to honor and commemorate veterans of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State Capitol Commission may request the
Tennessee Department of Veterans' Affairs and the Tennessee Arts Commission to jointly
sponsor a contest, which will be open to all interested Tennessee artists, to select the
monument to honor these veterans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the monument should be comparable in size to those
memorials currently placed on War Memorial Plaza.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State Capitol Commission, the Tennessee
Department of Veterans' Affairs, and the Tennessee Arts Commission shall be responsible for
selecting appropriate submissions for the contest and determining the final choice.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the selected monument shall be funded by a specific
state appropriation and displayed on War Memorial Plaza.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State Capitol Commission is also authorized to
seek private donations to cover the cost of the monument and related expenses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that enrolled copies of this resolution be transmitted to
the State Capitol Commission, the Tennessee Department of Veterans' Affairs, and the
Tennessee Arts Commission.